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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/530,124	04/04/2005	Kiyoshi Saito	043890-0728	2648

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EXAMINER

MCCALL, ERIC SCOTT

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2855

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

### Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/530,124

**Applicant(s)**

SAITO ET AL.

**Examiner**

Eric S. McCall

**Art Unit**

2855

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 5-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date *April 04, 2005.*

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**PEDALING FORCE SENSOR AND PEDALING FORCE  
DETECTION DEVICE USING THE SENSOR**

**FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

**CLAIMS**

**Objections**

Claims 1-12 are objected to because the word "its" in lines 3 and 4 of claim 1 create uncertainty as to that which is being referenced. Appropriate correction is required.

**35 U.S.C. § 102**

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fuglewicz et al. (6,595,045).

With regards to claim 1, Fuglewicz et al. set forth a force-on-pedal sensor as claimed comprising:

- a) a cylindrical substrate (14) whose one end is closed having:
  - a hole at a center of its side section (ie. the hole in the top of 14 in Fig. 1 wherein pushrod 4 protrudes); and
  - a strain resistance element (6) via an insulating layer (64, 66, 68, &70) at its side section;
- b) a coil spring (24) coaxially inserted from an open end of the substrate (bottom of Fig. 1);
- c) an inputting shaft (4) having a stepped part (22) contacted with one end of the coil spring and inserted in the hole in such a manner that a part of the inputting shaft is protruded from the hole (Fig. 1); and
- d) a stopper (38) at a position where the inputting shaft is protruded.

With regards to claim 2, Fuglewicz et al. suggest a screw section (18) being formed at an outer circumference of a cylindrical section of the substrate as claimed.

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With regards to claim 4, Fuglewicz et al. set forth that the substrate is formed by mechanically coupling the side section with a cylindrical section, and the strain resistance element (6) and a processing circuit are formed in one piece at the side section (Fig. 1).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

Claims 3 and 5-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the above claim objection and in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims because the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed subject matter of claims 3, 5, 6, and 8 respectively.

*CITED DOCUMENTS*

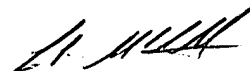
The Applicant's attention is directed to the enclosed "PTO-892" form for the prior art made of record at the time of this office action.

*CONTACT INFORMATION*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Eric S. McCall whose telephone number is (571) 272-2183.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Eric S. McCall  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2855  
April 28, 2006